

These minutes are for information only. They have not been reviewed and approved by the Board of Emergency Medical Services. Such review will take place at the next regularity scheduled meeting of the Board on June 9, 2006.

BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MARCH 10, 2006

The meeting of the Board of Emergency Medical Services was called to order by Bruce Beins, Chairperson, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was held at the Staybridge Suites, 2701 North Fletcher Ave, Conference Room, Lincoln, NE 68521. Copies of the agenda had been sent to board members and other interested parties at least ten days prior to the meeting. Roll was taken and the following board members were present:

Ron Balthazor	Shawn Baumgartner
Bruce Beins	Mike Buscher
John Doyle (arrived at 9:03)	Bob Dunn
Dave Engler	Dan Hakel
Ben Lans	Bob Olson
Clint Rasmussen	Earl Rudolph
Val Snyder	Tom Surber

Members Absent: Joel Cerny, Rommie Hughes, Michael Westcott.

Credentialing Staff present were:

Diane, Hansmeyer, Section Administrator
Patty Pierson, Credentialing Coordinator
Pam Harris, Credentialing Specialist

AGENDA

Buscher moved to approve the revised agenda. Snyder seconded.

Discussion: none.

Voting aye: Balthazor, Baumgartner, Beins, Buscher, Dunn, Engler, Hakel, Lans, Olson, Rasmussen, Rudolph, Snyder, Surber. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Doyle. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES MINUTES – JANUARY 20, 2006

Baumgartner moved to approve the January 20, 2006, Board of Emergency Medical Services Minutes. Olson seconded.

Discussion: none.

Voting aye: Surber, Snyder, Rudolph, Rasmussen, Olson, Lans, Hakel, Engler, Dunn, Doyle, Buscher, Beins, Baumgartner, Balthazor. Voting nay: none. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

INVESTIGATIONS REPORTS

Olson moved to go into closed session at 9:04 a.m. for the purpose of protecting the reputation of individuals and reviewing investigation reports. Rudolph seconded.

Discussion: none.

Voting aye: Lans, Hakel, Engler, Dunn, Doyle, Buscher, Beins, Baumgartner, Balthazor, Olson, Rasmussen, Rudolph, Snyder, Surber. Voting nay: none. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott.

Motion carried.

Engler left the meeting at 9:05 a.m. Returned to closed session at 9:15 a.m.

Returned to open session at 10:15 a.m.

APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE

INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATIONS

Rudolph moved to approve Lori L Burns, Justin Davis, Jeremy Hankla, Gerald Hemphill, Aaron L Rippe, Andrew C Stevens to practice as certified emergency medical technicians and James E Colson, Justin G Jacobsen to practice as certified first responders. Baumgartner seconded.

Discussion: none.

Voting aye: Surber, Rudolph, Rasmussen, Olson, Balthazor, Baumgartner, Beins, Buscher, Doyle, Dunn, Engler, Hakel, Lans. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Snyder. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

Doyle moved to issue Nicholas S Flowers a probationary certification for one year to practice as a certified emergency medical technician with the following conditions: 1. Notify any emergency medical service for which he provides emergency services; 2. Submit quarterly reports from his supervisor. The reason for the probationary certification is based on the following convictions: 1. Procuring alcohol for a minor; 2. Unlawful entry without permit; 3. No proof of insurance; 4. Minor in possess/sell/dispense/alcohol; 5. Driving under suspension. Buscher seconded.

Discussion: none.

Voting aye: Lans, Hakel, Engler, Dunn, Doyle, Buscher, Beins, Baumgartner, Balthazor, Surber, Rudolph, Rasmussen, Olson. Voting nay: none. Abstain: Snyder. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

Baumgartner moved that the Department contact Angela J Miller and request the objectives of the courses presented with her reinstatement information and reinstate her emergency medical certification if those objectives met the continuing education requirements. Lans seconded.

Discussion: The Department received a waiver of continuing education for the renewal requirement of an emergency medical technician certification from Angela J Miller. Ms Miller is with the United States Air Force stationed in Germany. Diane Hansmeyer cautioned the Board to review the availability of her receiving continuing education during the renewal period of her emergency medical technician certification, which would be from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2005. The Board felt that she has the thirty hours of continuing education by the documentation she submitted and there may not be a need for a waiver. The Board wanted the Department to contact Angela asking for the objectives of the documentation that was submitted. The Department will bring back the waiver of continuing education if Angela hasn't met the thirty-hour continuing education renewal requirement.

Voting aye: Balthazor, Baumgartner, Beins, Buscher, Doyle, Dunn, Engler, Hakel, Lans, Olson, Rasmussen, Rudolph, Snyder, Surber. Voting nay: none. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

SERVICES

Rudolph moved to approve Children's Hospital Neonat/Infant Transport Services as an Advanced Life Transport Service. Doyle seconded.

Discussion: Bob Olson did the site visit. The Children's Hospital Neonatal/Infant Transport Team specializes in infant transport service and is operated by Children's Hospital. They are available twenty-four hours a day and seven days a week. They have a leasing contract with Rural Metro for their patient transport. At the time of a transport request, the medical control physician will take into count the seriousness of the patient within the approximate one hundred and fifty-mile radius, the time of day, and the road and weather conditions to make a decision on which kind of transport ground versus air to utilize. They will be utilizing their own staff and equipment on each run. The Children's Hospital Neonat/Infant Team will be doing their own billing. The question was asked if they would have the required equipment available for their use. Diane Hansmeyer stated that the current rules and regulations require them to have equipment available to perform patient assessment, airway management care, cardiac care, intravenous administrations, medications/control substances and they must be approved in writing by the service's physician medical director. It was determined that by leasing from Rural Metro they would meet the equipment requirement. Rural Metro will be providing their equipment and two emergency medical technicians plus Children's Hospital Neonatal/Infant Transport Team's staff and equipment needed for each infant transport. Most of their runs will be inter hospital runs. They meet the current rules and regulations.

Voting aye: Surber, Snyder, Rudolph, Rasmussen, Olson, Lans, Hakel, Engler, Dunn, Doyle, Buscher, Beins, Baumgartner, Balthazor. Voting aye: none. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

TRAINING AGENCIES APPROVAL FROM BASIC TO ADVANCE

Rudolph moved to approve Metro Community College and Central Community College-Grand Island as Advanced Training Agencies. Balthazor seconded.

Discussion: Gary Steele, Training Coordinator, did the site visits on both training agencies. Metro Community College needed evaluation forms for EMS instructors. Central Community College-Grand Island needed the physician medical director to view the test materials. Both training agencies are working on those items and have met the requirements for an Advance Training Agency. Steele stated that both of the training agencies will not start their advanced training classes until the fall semester.

Voting aye: Balthazor, Baumgartner, Beins, Buscher, Doyle, Dunn, Engler, Hakel, Lans, Olson, Rasmussen, Rudolph, Snyder, Surber. Voting nay: none. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

COURSE APPROVAL FOR JEFFREY LEAF

Hakel moved to approve the Patient Assessment on April 17, 2006 in Madison, NE and Which Assessment?-Medical, Trauma, or Triage on April 10, 2006 in Spalding to meet the condition of Jeffrey Leaf's probationary certification. Snyder seconded.

Discussion: Diane Hansmeyer stated that at the last board meeting the Board approved a Prehospital Trauma Life Course to meet the condition of Jeffrey Leaf's probationary certification. Hansmeyer stated that Mr. Leaf was not able to attend this course. Mr. Leaf has now submitted a Patient Assessment Course and Which Assessment?-Medical, Trauma, or Triage Course for the Board's approval. He also submitted the objectives for each course. Mr. Leaf is required to complete a four-hour course on patient assessment on or before August 11, 2006 to meet the condition of his probationary certification. Mr. Leaf would need to take both courses because each course is three hours in length. The Patient Assessment course will be held on April 17, 2006, in Madison, Nebraska from 7 to 10 p.m. The Which Assessment?-Medical, trauma, or Triage? Course will be held on April 10, 2006 in Spalding from 7 to 10 p.m.

Voting aye: Hakel, Engler, Dunn, Doyle, Buscher, Beins, Baumgartner, Balthazor, Lans, Olson, Rasmussen, Rudolph, Snyder, Surber. Voting nay: none. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

EMS UPDATE

Doug Fuller, EMS Coordinator, stated that he brought some sample reports that the new eNARSIS can generate for the Board's review. (Attachments A through G). Information was entered on eNARSIS starting November 12, 2004. eNARSIS documentation is approaching a total of 26,000 runs that has been entered. There will soon be an expansion of information once the Legacy Data is downloaded from Health Data. Legacy Data is data that will be entered through the Health Data office. The primary focus is 2000 and 2005 data. This data will give a benchmark for 2000 and 2005. The sample reports gave information on medication given, times of call, types of calls, average run mileage, where people were transported to, average patient age, patients by race, patients by age, runs by weekday, system data summary and performance statistics, and runs by cause of injury. Services are the primary entities using the eNARSIS at this time. EMS Programs will be working with Lincoln Fire Department and Omaha Fire Department in the near future to get their data into the eNARSIS system. EMS Programs is currently working with hospitals regarding the eNARSIS System. There have been two hundred and fourteen services that have been trained on eNARSIS. There are one hundred and forty-three services recording data on the eNARSIS System. EMS Programs asked the Board to review these sample reports and email any suggestions they may have to improve any information for these reports. The training goals for the eNARSIS System this year is to have two training sessions in each of the seven EMS regions between the months of April and October. EMS Programs is also going to research the possibility of utilizing a mobile training lab with computers through the University of Nebraska. EMS Programs has hired a consultant in the Metro area for assistance in that area. EMS Programs will continue to hire consultants for assistance in different areas of the State of Nebraska, as funds become available. The paper versus electronic reporting will probably be reevaluated in the future.

Dean Cole, EMS Program Administrator, reported that currently there are three hundred and nine services that have completed the on-line survey with their service information. Cole presented a list to the Board showing what services that have not completed their on-line survey. (Attachment H) He further stated that this is part of Homeland Security and there must be one hundred percent participation. EMS Programs has hired an individual to help complete this survey.

Cole stated that he would be emailing the Board a report when it becomes finalized called the Health Information Project. The Health Information Project will look at how EMS is involved. This is the first time that EMS is being looked at as health care professionals and the impact that EMS plays in health care for the State of Nebraska. The study is being done by the University of Nebraska Center for Rural Health.

Cole stated that EMS Programs received an \$117,000.00 grant from Homeland Security. These monies will be applied to develop the Statewide Trauma System. Part of the grant will be used to integrate Image Trend into the Statewide Trauma System. The deadline is August 31, 2006.

Bruce Beins, Chairperson, stated that the use of pulse oximeters was placed under the emergency medical technicians practice and procedures. The reason of placing the pulse oximeters under the emergency medical technicians practice and procedures was because they have been utilized by basic life support services. The question was asked if EMS Coordinators are telling ambulance services that they must remove them until they have taken the appropriate training. Diane Hansmeyer stated that this is true until a service takes the appropriate training through an approved training agency they are not able to use them. Beins stated that he has received several calls from basic life support services regarding this issue. Diane Hansmeyer stated the statutes require any additional training that is not part of the DOT curriculum to have a

curriculum provided. She stated the current rules and regulations require out-of-hospital emergency care providers to take appropriate training for any additional modules and have the approval of their physician medical director before they can perform them. The question was asked if a physician medical director could provide the appropriate training for the additional modules. Hansmeyer stated the current rules and regulations require training to be through an approved training agency and taught by a certified EMS instructor. The physician medical director is not a certified EMS instructor. When a service is doing something that is not in the practices and procedures they are adding to the service's liability.

Gary Steele, EMS Training Coordinator, reported that EMS Programs has contracted with two companies for the development of the Video Training Library. Those companies are the Pulse and 24-7 EMS companies. They have a three-year contract with both of these companies. The Video Training Library will be on the education page of the EMS web site. The Video Training Library will be housed in the Norfolk office. Steele stated that since EMS Programs contracted with 24-7 EMS they purchased the right to use 24-7 EMS for Continuing Education Coordinating Board for Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS) accreditation. An individual who is in need of continuing education hours could contact the Norfolk office to set up a time to go through the process of taking the training and it will be approved by CECBEMS. Steele stated that the timeline to have this set would be about one month.

Steele reported that he has been working on the Reading Inventory. Steele stated that if they included everyone who took the exam there would be twenty-two percent who seemed to be having difficulty in reading. He stated they found that of the twenty-two percent that claim to have difficulty reading a large percentage of those have spent the least amount of time reading. If the people that spend the least amount of time reading are removed from the twenty-two percent it would leave a total of five percent of the people that actual have difficulty reading.

The pulse oximeter curriculum is finished. A pilot for the albuterol course is in the process. Once the pilot for albuterol is completed and any necessary corrections made, the albuterol course will be available to the training agencies. The new instructor's course has been piloted and there may be a few modifications needed regarding the goals and responsibilities of the instructors.

Steele stated that in the next month and half he will be conducting training agency inspections for Little Priest Tribal College in Winnebago, Regional West Medical Center and Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff.

Steele "Thanked" the Board for approving the leadership course for continuing education hours. Dean Cole, EMS Program Administrator, stated that EMS Programs has received national recognition of the leadership program in Nebraska. The Critical Hospital Access Grant will be funding the leadership course for the next year.

The Board recessed at 12:00 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

NURSE'S SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE

John Doyle, Chairperson of Nurse's Scope of Practice Committee, reported to the Board that he had done some reviewing of the nurse's scope of practice and found that there are some skills that a nurse would not be able to perform on an ambulance service. Doyle stated that a nurse could take the Trauma Nurse Core Course (TNCC) or the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care course for Nurses to become an Emergency Medical Technician or the Registered Nurse's Course to become an EMT-Paramedic. Diane Hansmeyer explained that the Neb. Rev. Stat. 71-5186, allows a physician, registered nurse, licensed physician assistant or licensed practical nurse within the scope of his or her license to function in place of an out-of-hospital emergency care provider.

Dr Surber stated the physician medical directors of ambulance services need a guideline or a tool that will help them determine what skills a nurse may perform. Diane Hansmeyer stated that the Competency Checklist for licensed nurses developed previously lists the skills of the out-of-hospital emergency care providers. The list would be given to the physician medical director and nurse to review and determine what skills the nurses was competent to perform and which skills required training.

Doyle stated that he will have the committee review the Competency Checklist for Licensed Nurses and once that has been completed he will send the list to Diane Hansmeyer to disseminate to the Board.

Once the Competency Checklist for Licensed Nurses has been finalized by the Board, staff will work with the nursing section to see if an article can be placed in "Nursing News" to inform nurses about practicing as part of an ambulance service.

PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS

ALBUTEROL / DUONEB

Diane Hansmeyer stated that she had received a request from a physician to add the use of Duoneb to the practice and procedures of the emergency medical technicians. Hansmeyer stated that Duoneb is a generic drug that is used in place of albuterol. Hansmeyer stated that she wanted to review the statutes and rule and regulations that deal with school personnel for administering albuterol. It was felt that those rule and regulations state albuterol only. This issue is tabled until Diane Hansmeyer reviews those statutes and rule and regulations.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE REPEAL

Baumgartner moved to repeal TITLE 172 12, Section 12-007.02A through Section 12-007.02H and TITLE 172 13, Section 13-008. Olson seconded.

Discussion: Diane Hansmeyer stated that in TITLE 172 12 and TITLE 172 13, the sections that deal with the procedures for discipline after not meeting their inspections do not follow the statutes. She said that these sections will need to be repealed. Those sections are TITLE 172 12, Section 12-007.02A through Section 12-007.02H and TITLE 172 13, Section 13-008. The Department will schedule a public hearing for repealing those sections.

Voting aye: Balthazor, Baumgartner, Beins, Buscher, Doyle, Dunn, Engler, Hake, Lans, Olson, Rasmussen, Rudolph, Snyder, Surber. Voting nay: none. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS / INSTRUCTOR TIME

Baumgartner moved to allow one-third of the required continuing education hours within a renewal period for hour to hour actual instruction with no duplication of the instruction. Surber seconded.

Discussion: Diane Hansmeyer stated that she had a request from an EMS Instructor about receiving continuing education hours for the instruction of a course. Hansmeyer stated that other professions in the Department do allow continuing education hours for one time instruction of a course. The Board had concern about an EMS Instructor receiving all their continuing education hours through instruction. Hansmeyer explained that the rules and regulations state that they must have thirty hours of continuing education hours and does not specify how an out-of-hospital emergency care provider must receive those hours.

Voting aye: Surber, Snyder, Rudolph, Rasmussen, Olson, Lans, Hakel, Engler, Dunn, Doyle, Beins, Baumgartner, Balthazor. Voting nay: Buscher. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

OUT-OF-HOSPITAL PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

There is nothing new to report at this time.

TRAINING AGENCIES AND SERVICE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Earl Rudolph, Chairperson of Training Agencies and Service Programs Committee, stated that he has not had an opportunity to meet with the committee and would like to table A. Strengthening Service's Backup Response; B. Review frequency of Advance Training Courses by Advanced Training Agencies; C. Review services audit requirement for Certificate of Air Medical Transport (CAMT) until the June 9, 2006 board meeting. Bruce Beins, Chairperson, tabled these three items.

NON-STATE REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Bruce Beins, Chairperson, stated that he was asked a question if it was true that Medicare had ceased paying for all Medicare base ambulance runs. Shawn Baumgartner stated that was not true there are tremendous amount of hoops that an ambulance service has to go through to transport a Medicare beneficiary from facility to facility. Beins stated that he was also asked if an ambulance service is going to bill Medicare for an ambulance run is the minimum staffing two emergency medical technicians? Baumgartner stated that is how it is appearing right at the moment. Beins then asked if first responders did patient transports the service would not be able to bill Medicare? Baumgartner stated that is how it is appearing at this time. It really depends on the carrier of the State. This issue did not come up at the public hearing for first responders transporting patients.

PROTOCOLS / NARSIS COMMITTEE

FIELD BLOOD DRAW

Shawn Baumgartner stated that he has nothing. He stated to remove it from the agenda because no one has contacted him further regarding this issue.

TIERED RESPONSE

Shawn Baumgartner stated he has emailed a draft copy of the model protocols to the committee for their review. The Emergency Cardiac Care Committee made some essential changes to the Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) rules. Those changes involved some essential changes in wording and procedures. Those changes are in the draft model protocols. The draft copy of the model protocols will be presented to the Board for their approval at the next board meeting.

MARK 1 KITS ISSUE

John Doyle did some research on the MARK 1 KITS. Doyle stated that he spoke with EMS staff at Offutt Air Force who is familiar with the Mark 1 Kits. He stated that he felt that there is nothing that this Board should object to. He found that ambulance services would be self-administering to their own personnel in case of an emergency crisis and would probably need the approval of their physician medical director.

Earl Rudolph stated that as part of Homeland Security with Urban Security each major city in Nebraska would be offered a Mark 1 Kit because of bio-terrorism probability. These major cities would then administer to their ambulance service personnel and the surrounding community's ambulance services personnel. The Mark 1 Kit would be self-protection for ambulance services personnel only.

The question was asked if there is an issue of preparing for the self-administration to ambulance service personnel that the Board would need to look at. Beins stated that he had checked to see if there were some Homeland Security statutes that would over ride other statutes in an emergency crisis and there was no authority. Diane Hansmeyer stated that the Department's legal staff is also looking at this issue to see if the basic life support service could carry these Mark 1 Kits on their service because of the issue in carrying and storage of the drug for self administration of personnel. There was no decision at this time.

407 REVIEW / LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

FIRST RESPONDER ISSUE

Baumgartner moved to create an EMS Task Force to address specifically the 1st Responder transporting issue, education issue, leadership issue, recruitment/retention issue and controlling authority issue. Olson seconded.

Discussion: Bruce Beins, Chairperson, welcomed Rochelle Mallett, Senator Michael J. Flood's Legislative Aide, to the board meeting. Beins stated the public hearing for the first responder issue was held on February 2, 2006. There was a lot of testimony given on both sides. A couple of concerns were Recruitment / Retention, passage of the National Registry examination, and the length of the emergency medical technician course.

Beins stated that in statute and rules and regulations the additional training is set up as modules, however, the rule and regulations don't state how training agencies must administer those modules. A training agency can teach all modules in the main emergency medical technician course making the course longer in length. The original emergency medical technician course without the modules was between a hundred and ten to a hundred and thirty hours in length. Beins pointed out that some candidates in certain areas may not need all the modules causing prospective candidates not to take the emergency medical technician course. He stated that these modules are not in the National Registry examination. Another concern was how many prospective candidates were excluded from taking the emergency medical technician course by training agencies due to the ability of taking/passing the National Registry examination so the passing rate of the training agency remains above the seventy-percent passage requirement for training agencies.

The issue that was brought up testified the most in testimony was when a small service has two 1st responders on their service, the call goes out for patient transport. The ambulance unit, two 1st responders, and patient are present at the scene. The 1st responders can not start transporting that patient according to the current rules and regulations. Other testimony stated that 1st responders could initiate transporting the patient as long as another service with other out-of-hospital emergency care providers was on their way.

There was testimony by those not in favor of the bill that tier response or mutual aid should do nursing home transports. The Board will be looking at dispatch, tier response and simultaneous dispatch.

Again, the problem is that there is no one responsible for emergency medical services for the State of Nebraska. Another concern that needs to be resolved is some kind of incentive for the volunteers. Beins stated that money was not an issue at the public hearing.

Testimony regarding the possibility of a provisional license was given at the public hearing. A provisional license would be given to a candidate that had passed the emergency medical technician course but had not passed the National Registry examination. A provisional license would give the candidate an opportunity to assist on an ambulance service while waiting to pass the National Registry examination.

Rochelle Mallet stated that the bill is still in committee. Mallet stated that Senator Flood is very strong on 1st responders with appropriate training transporting patients. She stated that Senator Flood would probably bring this issue back to the legislature next year.

The Board suggested that an EMS Task Force be created to work on the 1st Responders transporting issue, Education issues, Leadership, Recruitment/Retention and Controlling Authority. The EMS Task Force could have several organizations, for example Legislative Members, Fire Fighters, Out-of-Hospital Emergency Care Providers, General Public Members who have interest in EMS. The EMS Task Force could look at what the general public expectations are for EMS in the State of Nebraska. Diane Hansmeyer stated that the Board could set up an EMS Task Force; however, the problem would be the need of funds for meetings. The Board asked Diane Hansmeyer and Dean Cole if there would be any available funds for an EMS Task Force. They said that they would look to see if there are any funds available for an EMS Task Force.

Voting aye: Balthazor, Baumgartner, Beins, Buscher, Doyle, Dunn, Hake, Lans, Olson, Rasmussen, Rudolph, Snyder, Surber. Voting nay: Engler. Absent: Cerny, Hughes, Westcott. Motion carried.

Bruce Beins, Chairperson, stated that he would be contacting Jerry Stilmock, Lobbyist for Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Association (NSVFA), and Richard Lombardi Lobbyist for Nebraska Emergency Medical Services Association (NEMSA), for their expertise on the legislative part of the EMS Task Force. He will also contact NSVFA's EMS and Legislative Committees, and the Ambulance Association regarding the EMS Task Force. He will also talk with NEMSA at their next meeting. This is going to take equal representation for the EMS Task Force to have an impact.

It was suggested Rochelle Mallet take back to Senator Flood that the Board is creating an EMS Task Force, the need of a professional facilitator to keep the group focused and the need of funds for the EMS Task Force. Mallet stated that she would be discussing with Senator Flood all the issues and suggestions made at this board meeting.

Bruce Beins, Chairperson, presented a copy of bills he is monitoring. (Attachment J) Beins stated that he testified on two priority bills for Nebraska Emergency Medical Service Association (NEMSA) that deal with the student self-management for diabetes and administration of asthma medication at school activities. The report lists the bill number, the sponsor, content of the bill, the priority, the hearing of a bill, general information, the select of the bill, the final of the bill, and the EMS position. This report is for general information to the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

TRAUMA BOARD LIAISON REPORT

Shawn Baumgartner, Trauma Liaison, stated that he has nothing to report at this time, however, he has spoken with Sherri Wren, Trauma Coordinator. The Trauma Board Meeting is going to be on May 5, 2006. This meeting will be the first meeting for Shawn. Shawn will have more information at the June board meeting.

RENEWAL REPORT

Diane Hansmeyer presented the Board the annual "Renewal Report for 2005". (Attachment I) This report showed the number of renewals that were sent for the expiration period December 31, 2005. The report showed the number of out-of-hospital emergency care providers that renewed by mail and on-line. There were a significant number of out-of-hospital emergency care providers that renewed on-line. The report also gave the number of out-of-hospital emergency care providers that did not renew.

PASSING PERCENTAGE BY TRAINING AGENCY

Diane Hansmeyer presented to the Board the report "Passing Percentages by Training Agency for January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2005". (Attachment K) This report shows passing percentages by training agency. At the bottom of the report, are the passing percentages for the State and the Nationally. When comparing the passing percentage for the State of Nebraska and the Nationally, the State's passing percentages exceed the National passing percentages.

The Board had some concern that this reports does not give a clear view of how many candidates may be excluded from taking emergency medical technician training because of the inability to take and pass the National Registry examination. Diane Hansmeyer reminded the Board that the National Registry is basically a certifying examination and it tests the minimum competency of a candidate. It is not an end of the course exam to determine passage of the course.

Diane Hansmeyer stated that National Registry has chosen the State of Nebraska to Beta test the new computer adaptive testing for paramedics in June of this year. Pearson Vue has three locations where this testing will be done. Those locations are in Omaha, Lincoln, and North Platte. If a paramedic fails the computer adaptive testing examination, it will not count towards their three-time allowance of taking the National Registry Paramedic Written Examination. Hansmeyer stated that she will discuss this with the training agencies at their March 24, 2006, Training Agency Meeting in Lincoln.

There being no further business, Bruce Beins, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Earl Rudolph, Secretary